

Appendix VIII. Listing of Old Growth Forest Acreages:
Confirmed by "Friends of Mohawk Trail State Forest" and Associates

Ecoregion	Primary	Primary & Secondary	Steep Terrain
Berkshire-Vermont Upland	637.0	1,679.0	2,977.5
Taconic Mountains Ecoregion	276.0	1,892.0	2,842.0
Taconic Highlands Association	264.0	1,834.0	2,744.0
Western New England Marble Valley Association	12.0	58.0	98.0
Totals	913.0	3,571.0	5,819.5

Prepared by Robert T. Leverett and Gary Beluzo, with input from Tony D'Amato and David Orwig - 6/20/2005

Notes

1. Primary forest is defined as forests that were never logged or clear for other reasons.
2. Secondary forest is defined as forests that have been impacted by human intervention.
3. Primary and secondary forests can possess old growth characteristics, although primary forests will usually possess the characteristics to a greater degree, i.e. the more complete development of the characteristics.
4. Areas of primary forest exhibiting high age characteristics total about 900 acres.
5. Secondary old growth can look very similar to an untrained eye. From an aesthetics standpoint no distinction need necessarily be made. However, the same can not be said in terms of ecological distinction.
6. Steep terrain boundaries encompassing the old growth generally form logical administrative boundaries for management purposes.
7. The steep terrain acreages can usually be used to define the buffers.
8. Efforts continue by FMTSF, Harvard Forest, and other researchers to refine old growth boundaries through increasingly sophisticated studying and mapping. Tony D'Amato of UMASS is currently working on a doctorate delineating old growth that best fits the primary forest old growth classification. Robert T. Leverett and Gary Beluzo with continue to identify old growth candidates and tighten boundaries of existing areas and will coordinate with Dr. David Orwig of Harvard Forest and Tony D'Amato of UMASS. Other consultants include Dr. Lee Frelich, Dr. Tom Wessels, and Dr. Charles Cogbill.
9. The acreages are close to what has been previously listed in briefings to DCR by Gary Beluzo and Bob Leverett. However, this information may be incomplete and further results are pending.